

UNCLASSIFIED Department of State

8/17/79

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

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INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 HA-05 10-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAC-00 INRE-00 /071 R

MOTIVATIONS OF THE GOA AND/OR THE JUDGE IN TAKING SUCH
DRASTIC ACTION AGAINST THE HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS ON
THE EVE OF THE VISIT OF THE IAHRC. WE ALSO WOULD APPRE-
CIATE ANY BACKGROUND AND BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION THE
MISSION MAY HAVE ON THE JUDGE IN QUESTION. CHRISTOPHER

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:MMADAMS, JR:LL
APPROVED BY ARA:VPVAKY
HA:PFLOOD
ARA:RGUZMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

STATE 215019

E.O. 12065 GDS 8/16/85 IVAKY, VP)

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: RAIDS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 6648 AND 6581

1. ENTIRE TEXT)

2. DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED OVER COURT-ORDERED RAIDS ON
HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS IN BUENOS AIRES AND OVER REPORTS
THAT LARGE QUANTITIES OF DOCUMENTS BEING PREPARED FOR
VISIT OF IAHRC HAVE BEEN SEIZED. SUCH ACTS CAN ONLY SERVE
TO UNDERMINE THE EFFORTS OF THE COMMISSION TO ARRIVE AT
FACTS IN ASSESSING THE CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN
ARGENTINA. THEY ALREADY HAVE LED COUNCIL ON HEMISPHERIC
AFFAIRS HERE TO CALL PUBLICLY FOR CANCELLATION OF IAHRC
VISIT. AI ALSO DENOUNCED RAIDS AND SEVERAL OTHER NGO'S
HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN TO DEPARTMENT.
3. YOU SHOULD APPROACH THE GOA AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL AND
MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

--IT IS OUR VIEW THAT THE GOA INVITATION TO THE IAHRC,
WHICH NOW HAS RESULTED IN THE SCHEDULING OF AN IAHRC VISIT,
WAS A SIGNIFICANT POSITIVE STEP TOWARD THE IMPROVEMENT OF
OUR RELATIONS AND THE BETTERMENT OF ARGENTINA'S IMAGE IN
THE WORLD.

--THE RECENT SEIZURE BY THE ARGENTINE COURT OF DOCUMENTA-
TION BEING PREPARED BY ORGANIZATIONS IN ARGENTINA FOR USE
OF THE IAHRC, WHATEVER THE REASONS THEREFOR, CAN ONLY
SERVE TO UNDERMINE THE EFFORTS OF THE IAHRC OR DISCREDIT
ITS FINDINGS.

--THE RAIDS AND THE SEIZURE OF DOCUMENTS ALSO ARE SEEN BY
MANY AS BEING A NEGATION OF GOA PLEDGES OF FULL COOPERA-
TION WITH THE IAHRC IN PURSUING ITS INVESTIGATION.

--WE URGE THAT THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER SUCH ACTS WHICH
MIGHT INHIBIT THE WORKING OF THE IAHRC WHEN IT ARRIVES, OR
CALL INTO QUESTION THE THOROUGHNESS OR EXACTITUDE OF ITS
FINDINGS WHEN ITS STUDY IS COMPLETED.

--WE ALSO URGE THAT THE COURT MOVE QUICKLY TO RETURN TO THE
ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTED THOSE SEIZED DOCUMENTS WHICH DO NOT
DIRECTLY PERTAIN TO THE SPECIFIC INVESTIGATION THAT IT IS
PURSUING SO THAT THIS DOCUMENTATION MAY BE FURNISHED TO
THE IAHRC UPON ITS ARRIVAL IN ARGENTINA.

4. IN ADDITION TO MAKING THESE REPRESENTATIONS, THE
DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S VIEWS AS TO THE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

Handwritten signature and initials, possibly "Argentine" and "Grafeld".

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